

31 Sāta Lākha Sutra

Repentance of Sins to all Living Beings

Jain literature indicates that in the universe, there exist 8.4 million (84 lakhs) different forms of life based on their birth location. There classifications are defined in Sāta Lākha Sutra. We request for forgiveness from all such living beings for our sinful activities towards them and we forgive them for their sinful activities towards us.

सात लाख

सात लाख पृथ्वीकाय, सात लाख अप्काय, सात लाख तेउकाय, सात लाख वाउकाय, दस लाख प्रत्येक वनस्पति-काय, चौदह लाख साधारण वनस्पति-काय,

दो लाख द्वीन्द्रिय, दो लाख त्रीन्द्रिय, दो लाख चउरिन्द्रिय, चार लाख देवता, चार लाख नारकी, चार लाख तिर्यच पंचेन्द्रिय, चौदह लाख मनुष्य

इस तरह चौरासी लाख जीव-योनि में से मेरे जीव ने

जो कोई जीव-हिंसा की हो, करायी हो, करते हुए का अनुमोदन किया हो, उन सब का मन-वचन-काया से मिच्छा मि दुक्कडं.....1.

Sāta Lākha

sāta lākha prthvikāya, sāta lākha apkāya, sāta lākha teukāya, sāta lākha vāukāya, dasa lākha pratyeka vanaspati-kāya, caudaha lākha sādharana vanaspati-kāya, do lākha dvindriya, do lākha trindriya, do lākha caurindriya, cāra lākha devatā, cāra lākha nāraki,

cāra lākha tiryanca pancendriya, caudaha lākha manusya--

isa taraha caurāsi lākha jiva-yoni mem se mere jiva ne

jo koi jiva-himsa ki ho, karāyi ho, karate hue kā anumodana kiyā ho, una saba kā mana-vacana-kāyā se micchā mi dukkadam.....1.

Meaning

Jain literature indicates that in the universe, there exist 8.4 million (84 lakhs) different forms of life based on their birth location. They are classified as follows:

Seven lakhs (700,000) forms of living beings with earth as its body

Seven lakhs (700,000) forms of living beings with water as its body

Seven lakhs (700,000) forms of living beings with fire as its body

Seven lakhs (700,000) forms of living beings with air as its body

Ten lakhs (1,000,000) forms of above-ground vegetation with one soul in every independent living body,

Fourteen lakhs (1,400,000) forms of below-ground vegetation with multiple souls in every independent living body,

Two lakhs (200,000) forms of living beings with two sense organs,

Two lakhs (200,000) forms of living beings with three sense organs,

Two lakhs (200,000) forms of living beings with four sense organs,

Four lakhs (400,000) forms of heavenly beings,

Four lakhs (400,000) forms of living beings of hell,

Four lakhs (400,000) forms of animals with five sense organs,

Fourteen lakhs (1,400,000) forms of human beings

Out of eighty four lakhs (8.4 million) forms of living beings, if I may have hurt any living beings, have caused others to hurt them, encouraged others to hurt them, or praised those who hurt them, either by thought, words, and/or actions, I ask forgiveness for all such sinful activities. I forgive all living beings, may all living beings forgive me, I am friendly to all, I have enmity for none.

Explanation:-

In this verse, why is it that there are total of only 8.4 million number of wombs (yonis) counted?

There are infinite numbers of wombs present. However the groups of wombs with similar color, odor, taste, touch and shape are considered as one type. Thus the numbers of wombs are counted as 8.4 million.

How is the number of species determined in each type of living being?

In each kind of living beings the type of species are halved in hundred. Each specie will have 5 types of colors (black, green, red, yellow and white), two types of odors (pleasant and foul smelling), five types of tastes (hot, bitter, rusty, sour and sweet), eight types of touches cold, warm, soft, hard, large/heavy, small/light, smooth and rough) and 5 types of shapes (triangle, square, rectangle, round and oval). By multiplying all the factors the final number of specie is determined.

For example, earth bodies are 700,000. Halved in hundred of this number is 350. Multiplying this number with all the other factors: $350 \times 5 \times 2 \times 5 \times 8 \times 5 = 700,000$. The exact source of how the numbers 700, 500, 350 200 and 100 are derived is not clear.